

# PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

## PCT

### INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference <b>118130</b>	<b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b> <div style="float: right; font-size: small;">see Form PCT/ISA/220 as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.</div>	
International application No. <b>PCT/AU2004/000582</b>	International filing date ( <i>day/month/year</i> ) <b>5 May 2004</b>	(Earliest) Priority Date ( <i>day/month/year</i> ) <b>11 August 2003</b>
Applicant <b>KING FURNITURE (AUSTRALIA) PTY LTD et al</b>		

This international search report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This international search report consists of a total of **7** sheets.

☒ It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

**1. Basis of the report**

- a. With regard to the **language**, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ The international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

- b. ☐ With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, see Box No. I.

2. ☐ Certain claims were found unsearchable (See Box No. II).

3. ☒ Unity of invention is lacking (See Box No. III).

4. With regard to the **title**,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the **abstract**,

☐ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☒ the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box No. IV. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. With regard to the **drawings**,

- a. the figure of the **drawings** to be published with the abstract is Figure No. **1,4 & 5**

☒ as suggested by the applicant.

☐ as selected by this Authority, because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

☒ as selected by this Authority, because this figure better characterizes the invention.

- b. ☐ none of the figures is to be published with the abstract.

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**Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)**

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a)

**Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)**

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

(a) Claims 1-15 directed to an article of furniture.

(b) Claims 16-25 directed to a locking mechanism.

1. ☒ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

**Remark on Protest**

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☒ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

**Box No. IV Text of the Abstract (Continuation of item 5 of the first sheet)**

An article of furniture (10) includes a base having a front (14) and a rear (16) and a top (18) surface. A back rest assembly (20) has a front edge (22) and a rear edge (24) and is slideably arranged relative to the base (12) in a plane parallel to the top surface of the base to adjust the depth (D) of the base as measured between the front edge of the back rest assembly and the front of the base. Further it includes a locking mechanism having a displacement member (48) movably received in the housing (42), the displacement member being displaceable between a locking orientation and an unlocking orientation, when the displacement member is in its locking orientation the locking member (50) is urged partially out of the aperture (50) in the housing to protrude a predetermined extent through the housing to effect locking and, when the displacement member is in its unlocking orientation, the locking member is free to be at least partially withdrawn into the housing to effect unlocking.

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International application No.

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## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

Int. Cl. <sup>7</sup>: (I) A47C 1/02, 17/04, 7/40, 1/00, 1/032, 20/00, 16/00 (II) A47C 1/022, 1/024, 1/03, 7/40, 7/00, F16B 21/16, 21/20, 21/10

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

WPAT, (I) A47C 1/02, 17/04, 7/40, 1/00, 1/032, 20/00, 16/00 (II) A47C 1/022, 1/024, 1/03, 7/40, 7/00, F16B 21/16, 21/20, 21/10 key words  
BACK+, BACK REST+, ADJUST+, SLID+, RAIL+, RUNNER+/- LOCK+, HOLD+, SECURE+, BALL+, RAMP+, WEDG+, APERTURE+,  
GROOV+RECESS

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	WO 98/09552 (WILLIAMS) 12 March 1998 Whole document	1-15
A	DE 29617154 U (KOINOR POLSTERMOEBEL GMBH & CO KG) 5 December 1996 Whole document	1-15
A	EP 1057725 A (AVIOINTERIORS SPA) 6 December 2000 Whole document	1-15
X	DE 20116300U (REISS BUEROMOEBEL GMBH) 7 February 2002 Whole document	16-25

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C

☒ See patent family annex

* "A"	Special categories of cited documents: document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"T"	later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"E"	earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date	"X"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"L"	document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"Y"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"O"	document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&"	document member of the same patent family
"P"	document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed		

Date of the actual completion of the international search  
1 July 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report  
07 JUL 2004

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C (Continuation).

## DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5207544 A (YAMAMOTO et al) 4 May 1993 Whole document	16-25
A	US 5518335 A (DOBBINS) 21 May 1996 Whole documents	16-25

**Supplemental Box III**

(To be used when the space in any of Boxes I to VIII is not sufficient)

The international application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention because it does not relate to one invention or to a group of inventions so linked as to form a single general inventive concept. In coming to this conclusion the International Searching Authority has found that there are different inventions as follows:

1. Claims 1-15. It is considered that the backrest assembly having a front edge and rear edge and slideably arranged relative to the base in a plane parallel to the top surface of the base to adjust a depth of the base as measured between the front edge of the backrest assembly and the front of the base comprises a first "special technical feature".
2. Claims 16-25. It is considered that the displacement member movably received in the housing, the displacement member being displaceable between a locking orientation and an unlocking orientation, when the displacement member is in its locking orientation the locking member is urged partially out of the aperture in the housing to protrude a predetermined extent through the housing to effect locking and, when the displacement member is in its unlocking orientation, the locking member is free to be at least partially withdrawn into the housing to effect unlocking comprises a second "special technical feature".

Since the above mentioned groups of claims do not share any of the technical features identified, a "technical relationship" between the inventions, as defined in PCT rule 13.2 does not exist. Accordingly the international application does not relate to one invention or to a single inventive concept.

**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

Information on patent family members

International application No.

**PCT/AU2004/000582**

This Annex lists the known "A" publication level patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned international search report. The Australian Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

Patent Document Cited in Search Report		Patent Family Member			
WO 9809552		AU 41750/97	CA 2262078	EP 1009258	
		US 5947559	US 5988749	US 2002014795	
		US 2004041452			
DE 29617154		NONE			
EP 1057725		IT RM990349	JP 2001017260	US 2003025371	
DE 20116300		NONE			
US 5207544		CA 2087419	EP 0558866	JP 5280518	
		MX 9301222			
US 5518335		US 5447092	US 5682007		
Due to data integration issues this family listing may not include 10 digit Australian applications filed since May 2001.					
END OF ANNEX					